

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of the present patent application based on the foregoing amendments and following remarks are respectfully requested.

By this Amendment, claim 25 is cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer to the subject matter therein and claim 32 is amended to correct a minor clerical mistake. No new matter has been added. Accordingly, after entry of this Amendment, claims 29, 32-36, 38 and 41-47 will remain pending in the patent application.

Applicants note with appreciation the Examiner's indication that claims 29, 32-36, 38 and 41-47 are allowed.

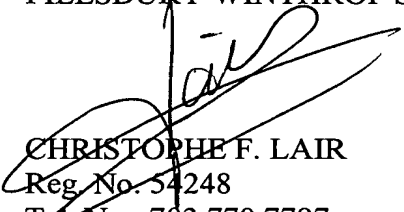
Claim 25 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) based on Smith *et al.* (U.S. Pat. No. 6,823,070). Claim 25 is cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer, thus rendering moot the rejection of this claim.

Applicants have addressed all the Examiner's rejections and respectfully submit that the application is in condition for allowance. A notice to that effect is earnestly solicited. If any point remains in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, please contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Please charge any fees associated with the submission of this paper to Deposit Account Number 033975. The Commissioner for Patents is also authorized to credit any over payments to the above-referenced Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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